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RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL 9830  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 4455  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 9685  
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 0980  
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 1198  
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 1095  
RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI 1062  
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE 6760  
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR 5685  
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO 4913  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC  
RHMFISS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL  
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RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 ISLAMABAD 000341

SIPDIS

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TAGS: [PTER](#) [MOPS](#) [PGOV](#) [PK](#)

SUBJECT: FATA AND NWFP: WEEKLY INCIDENTS OF TALIBANIZATION, JANUARY  
9 - JANUARY 15

Classified By: LYNNE TRACY, Reasons 1.4(B),(D).

REF: A) Peshawar 09  
B) Peshawar 11

Introduction:  
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1. (C) Almost no fighting was reported in Bajaur during the second week of January. Consulate contacts report that security forces have established 13 checkpoints on the 17 km of road between Bajaur's agency border and Khar, converting what is usually a 10 minute drive into a 90 minute voyage. The Political Agent reports that security remains tenuous in Khar, and the difficulty in conducting government business there. Post contacts report that militants have moved into neighboring Mohmand Agency.

2. (C) On January 11, the government began pulling some troops out of Swat as an increasing number of Pakistani officials conceded that militants now effectively control much of Swat. Despite Maulana Fazlullah's announcement on January 12 of a weeklong ceasefire, residents described Swat as lawless, even in Mingora, where one bazaar is now called, in Pashto, "slaughter-square." Nearly 600 police refused to deploy to Swat, stating that they were not properly equipped. Classic signs of talibanization are spreading in Swat, including round-the-clock loudspeaker announcements that declare Shari'a law, condemn un-Islamic behavior, and prohibit women from going to the marketplace. As the militant-declared January 15 deadline banning girls' education after grade-four passed, most parents decided to be safe and pull their girls out of school, regardless of age. Over 400 private schools reportedly stopped educating girls this week, depriving more than 40,000 girls in Swat of an education.

3. (C) At least 200 militants staged an unprecedented cross-border operation from Afghanistan into Mohmand Agency of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and attacked a paramilitary base of the Frontier Corps the evening of January 10. Government forces, while losing six soldiers, reportedly killed forty militants and drove them back towards the border with Afghanistan (Ref A).

¶4. (SBU) The Pakistani Army took control of Hangu on January 12 to enforce a ceasefire and impose a strict curfew after a two-day Shi'a-Sunni sectarian battle killed forty (Ref B).

¶5. (C) The Political Agent of Khyber Agency informed post that the convoy route from Pakistan to Afghanistan via the Khyber Pass was closed for a few hours on January 14 due to the demolition of some militant houses along the route. The road was reopened later that day.

¶6. (SBU) The Peshawar police reportedly launched a new security plan for Peshawar, called "Look Within," to search for militant hideouts in the provincial capital.

Bajaur

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¶7. (U) The following is a summary of events in Bajaur Agency, where the Pakistani military has been conducting military operations since August 2008:

January 12: Pakistani military authorities began sending fresh troops to Mohmand Agency to strengthen security force positions against militants believed to be coming from neighboring Bajaur Agency.

January 11: Militants reportedly chopped off the ears of four private security guards.

NWFP

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¶8. (U) The following incidents have occurred in the Provincially Administered Tribal Areas (PATA) and settled areas of NWFP:

January 15, Swat: Maulana Fazlullah's announced deadline banning girls' education after grade-four arrived. Most parents in Swat decided to pull their girls out of school, regardless of age. Over 400 private schools in Swat reportedly stopped educating girls, depriving more than 40,000 girls of an education. Maulana Fazlullah announced "conditional amnesty" to social and political workers from targeting killings if they did not oppose the taliban. Security forces reported killing four militants.

January 15, Charsadda: A bomb damaged 20 shops in a Shabqadar market.

January 14, Swat: Despite an announced cease-fire, militants attacked multiple security force positions. Security forces reportedly killed two militants.

January 14, Kohat: Militants reportedly attacked a police checkpoint with heavy weapons, but police repulsed the attack.

January 14, Nowshera: Militants destroyed several CD/DVD shops, internet cafes, and offices with bombs and grenades.

January 14, Dargai: Militants shot and killed the leader of the peace jirga.

January 13, Swat: Eight civilians died due to violence in different parts of the valley.

January 13, Kohat: Militants fired 20 rockets at a checkpoint, killing a Frontier Constabulary.

January 12, Swat: Maulana Fazlullah announced a week-long ceasefire.

January 12, Peshawar: Militants reportedly fired six rockets at the terminal storing NATO supplies in Peshawar. No casualties were reported.

January 11, Charsadda: After a rocket landed near the Frontier Constabulary headquarters, police arrested two militants in a Shabqadar.

January 11, Kohat: Militants fired four rockets near Darra Adam Khel.

January 9-12, Hangu: The Pakistani Army took control of Hangu on January 12 to enforce a ceasefire and impose a strict curfew after two days of sectarian battles between Shi'as and Sunnis killed at least forty (Ref B).

FATA  
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¶9. (U) The following is a roundup of incidents of Talibanization in the FATA and Frontier Regions:

January 15, Khyber: A wanted man shot two activists of an armed group in Bara, killing one, but the attacker was killed by the other activist.

January 15, South Waziristan: A remote-controlled bomb killed two security personnel in Machan Baba Ziarat, 15 km from Wana.

January 15, North Waziristan: Militants reportedly killed a man accused of spying for U.S. forces across the border in Afghanistan.

January 14, Khyber: The Political Agent informed post that the convoy route from Pakistan to Afghanistan via the Khyber Pass was closed for a few hours due to the demolition of some militant houses

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along the route. The Khyber Pass was reopened later that day.

January 12, North Waziristan: Militants reportedly killed two alleged U.S. spies.

January 11, Mohmand: At least 200 militants staged a cross-border attack from Afghanistan into Mohmand Agency of the FATA and struck a paramilitary base of the Frontier Corps on January 10. Government forces reportedly killed forty militants and drove them back towards the border with Afghanistan. Six soldiers were killed (Ref A).

January 11, South Waziristan: Five armed men kidnapped Additional Political Agent (APA) Amir Latif along with his driver in the presence of more than 20 security personnel, who reportedly made no effort to protect him.

Government Response  
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¶10. (U) This is a summary of government responses to "creeping Talibanization" according to press and consulate contacts:

January 15, Bajaur/Mohmand: The Bajaur Levies and Mohmand Rifles paramilitary organizations expressed interest in receiving U.S. training and assistance.

January 15, Khyber: The political administration reportedly arrested two taliban commanders.

January 14, Kohat: The police arrested 39 people in a search operation.

January 13, North Waziristan: The political administration launched a crackdown on Asadkhel tribal elders for their failure to hand over killers of political tehsildar (mayor), Amanullah Khan, and a Levy Sepoy (private).

January 12, Mohmand: The Frontier Corps claimed that it captured four Afghan nationals.

January 12, Peshawar: Police arrested an armed Afghan national in the Cantt area near Army Flats and recovered a hand grenade.

Grass Roots Efforts to Halt Talibanization  
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¶11. (U) The following events are examples of activities taken by

local communities to halt the spread of Talibanization:

January 15, North Waziristan: Assistant political agent of Mir Ali Tehsil, who was kidnapped 38-days prior, was released and reached his home.

January 13, Peshawar: The volunteers of a local peace committee reportedly repulsed an attempted assassination of their anti-taliban leader, Haji Abbas, forcing the militants to flee.

January 13, Mohmand: The elders of seven local tribes announced at a jirga in Peshawar that they would talk with militants and the government to halt militancy and prevent military operations in Mohmand.

January 12, Peshawar: A local priest kidnapped on January 11 was thrown out of a car, alive. The priest reported being abused by his kidnappers.